

FIRST 200 WAVES READY FOR HAWAII

**Captain McAfee Says Pacific
Bases Are Eager to Greet
Them, With Huts Already Up**

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 10—Hawaii is so eager to receive the first Waves to be allowed to serve overseas that a sign has already been put up, reading: "To Wave Barracks, We Hope," Capt. Mildred H. McAfee said today at a press conference presenting Lieut. Comdr. Jean Palmer and Lieut. Comdr. Jay Hancock, who have just returned from a Hawaiian inspection trip. The first contingent of 200 Waves will soon leave, Captain McAfee said.

Lieutenant Commander Palmer reported that adequate plans for housing the first 500 Waves are ready and that by the end of January, 3,000 to 4,000 could be accommodated at the Pearl Harbor naval base and at seven air stations on three islands, Oahu, Maui and Hawaii.

At Pearl Harbor, she said, 2,300 Waves would be housed in a Quonset hut city, brand new and painted inside in pastel shades, with lounging spaces in each hut, recreation huts, a sewing and ironing hut, a chapel hut, a recreation field and open air movie theatre, and a beauty parlor. It is expected that 4,000 Waves will ultimately go to Hawaii.

"The men had thought of everything," she summarized.

"Pioneering" Is Discounted

Lieutenant Commander Hancock said that Waves might volunteer to go overseas in a pioneering spirit, but there would be no opportunity to pioneer at the Hawaiian air bases as all would be well equipped to take care of them.

"Because of the liberty policy there, with enlisted personnel having to be back in their area at sundown and officers at 10 P. M., each area is a self-contained unit," she said. "There is nothing to do ashore, no large cities, so social life must be upon the station and there is a very fine recreation program."

Captain McAfee said that it was impossible to estimate the number of Wave volunteers who would wish to go to the overseas stations now permitted, Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico and the Canal Zone, but that she foresaw no difficulty in getting enough to fill the stations. Congress specified that service outside the country had to be on a volunteer basis. Similar inspection trips to the one just finished in

Hawaii will be made in the other areas, Captain McAfee said.

Two officers have been permanently assigned to Hawaii, she added, Lieut. Comdr. Eleanor Rigby, formerly of the training school in The Bronx, and Lieut. Winifred Quick of the Bureau of Personnel, who will assist in assignments.

Captain McAfee said that Hunter College would continue to be used as a training school for Waves. The program there was for a time scheduled to be shut down when it was decided to stop Wave enrollment at 80,000, nearly the present figure, instead of building it up to 100,000.

Henceforward, Captain McAfee said, Waves will be recruited only to fill in the gaps caused by attrition. The 100,000 figure, she said, was based on an overestimate of the attrition rate for men.